UNITED NATIONS **E**

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/AC.51/1996/L.8/Add.4
4 September 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION
Thirty-sixth session (Part II)
26 August-6 September 1996

DRAFT REPORT

Addendum

Rapporteur: Mr. Anatoliy T. OLIYNYK (Ukraine)

PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

Proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001

Programme 3. Peaceful uses of outer space

1. At its 22nd meeting, on 17 June 1996, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 3, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

Discussion

2. A number of delegations expressed support for the programme. One delegation stressed the need to set priorities in its implementation, and that delegation stated that the promotion of international cooperation in the application of space technology for peaceful purposes should be identified as a priority. One delegation noted that it did not consider the programme to be a high priority for the United Nations. One noted that in established United Nations practice the phrase "for sustainable development" was always preceded by the phrase "sustainaed economic growth" and that the medium-term plan usage should therefore be brought into line with that practice. Other delegations did not accept that this was standard United Nations practice and could not accept inclusion of the language.

3. Several delegations stressed the need to facilitate the establishment of new regional centres for space science and technology education affiliated with the United Nations and to render assistance to existing ones.

4. Delegations proposed the retention of the former programme title "Peaceful uses of outer space" and to replace all references to the new programme title "Outer space affairs" in the document with "Peaceful uses of outer space".

Conclusions and recommendations

5. The Committee recommended approval of programme 3 of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 with the following modifications:

(a) Paragraph 3.1: Replace the word "and" with "or" in the second line of the paragraph and add the words "as appropriate" after "private sector";

(b) Paragraph 3.4 (f): Replace the words "support in the preparation of a third United Nations Conference on Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space" with "a special session of the Committee (UNISPACEIII), open to all Members of the United Nations, to be convened at the United Nations Office at Vienna, preferably in 1999, unless progress towards agreeing on an agenda at the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-fourth session makes it more appropriate to consider the year 2000";

(c) Paragraph 3.4 (h): Insert, at the end of the paragraph, the words "and the protection of the space environment";

(d) Paragraph 3.5: Delete the last sentence;

(e) Paragraph 3.6: Add the word "technical" before "assistance" in the last sentence;

(f) Paragraph 3.6 bis: Add a new paragraph, as follows:

"3.7 Furthermore, in accordance with the recommendations of UNISPACE II, capacity and regional cooperation on space science and technology should be promoted through the establishment and consolidation of regional centres for space and technology education affiliated with the United Nations, including those which have been created or those in an advance process of creation"

and renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly;

(g) Paragraph 3.9 (former para. 3.8): Insert in the first sentence after the word "Organization" the words "through the provision of required expertise in determining the benefits of such technology".